



Turnbull School's

'Jog for Joe'

May 2011 National Capital Race Weekend

Raising Funds for the Ottawa Hospital and the Fight against Colon Cancer

Turnbull School has participated for 13 years in the Ottawa Race Weekend, and raised \$382,634 for the Ottawa Hospital. We are very proud to have the distinction of being the top fundraising school every year. Now Turnbull School's *reason to run* is focused on the fight against colon cancer as one of our custodian staff, Joe Fatoric, undergoes treatment. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in Canada and yet, this form of the disease is highly treatable if caught early.

The Campaign Kick-off Assembly is an eagerly anticipated annual tradition. The 2011 kick-off took place in the Turnbull School gym on April 14. Our theme for this year, "Jog for Joe", was enthusiastically embraced by all in attendance – 300 students in JK to grade 8, 42 staff, many parents, and several special guests from the Ottawa Hospital Foundation, as well as, to our delight, Mr. Fatoric himself.

Some highlights of the assembly included a rousing start with the Turnbull School Band and a warm welcome from Mrs. Sally Swan, teacher and Head of Community Service at Turnbull School. Student and parent class reps presented their fundraising projects including theme dress days, carnival day, guess the date of birth for two teachers' babies, a dessert sale, an International Lunch, a prize walk, "Cup of Joe" coffees for parents, and a silent auction of theme baskets. Mr. Jason FitzGerald, grade 4 teacher, had been growing his hair since before March Break and raised funds by selling tickets for the honour, and fun, of shaving his head during the assembly. Mr. Fatoric spoke about what the students' support has meant to him as he goes through his cancer treatment journey – the many cards and wishes for a speedy recovery, the visits at school when he is feeling up to it and the focus on "Jog for Joe" fundraising and run participation this year. Mrs. Susan Doyle, CEO and President of the Ottawa Hospital Foundation spoke about the hospital's need to raise funds and their appreciation of all the effort given by the students and the community to help. Enjoying a sunny day, the students closed the assembly with a group run around the playing field, high-fiving Mr. Fatoric as he watched from the sidelines, smiling his encouragement!

Along with our usual Turnbull School team of 400 participants on race day in various events, new this year will be a team of 36 students completing the Kids' Marathon.

Turnbull School focuses on excellence in academics and promotes a strong sense of social responsibility. Our goals for being involved are:

- To learn the value of physical fitness and the role it plays in a healthy lifestyle.
- To learn first-hand what fun a running event can be.
- To learn the importance of being involved in the community and giving back to help others.
- To raise money through race pledges for our neighbour, The Ottawa Hospital, and direct those funds this year to colon cancer research and treatment.
- To develop team and leadership skills as we work together on the campaign.
- To build school spirit.
- To inspire others to contribute to the community.

Let's tie our running shoes with our heart strings to 'Jog for Joe'.

Let's make this the best year ever and win this race!